In the Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A lithium primary battery comprising a positive electrode, a negative electrode, and a non-aqueous electrolyte, wherein manganese dioxide containing 0.1 to 3 % by weight of boron is used as said positive ~~electrode and~~ electrode, a lithium alloy containing 0.05 to 2 % by weight of aluminum is used as said negative ~~electrode.~~ electrode, and said positive electrode consists essentially of said manganese dioxide, said boron, and carbon.

2. (Previously presented) The lithium primary battery according to claim 1, wherein said boron is added to manganese dioxide by adding boric acid.

3. (Previously presented) The lithium primary battery according to claim 1, wherein the positive electrode is produced by heat treatment of manganese dioxide after addition of boron at a temperature ranging from 350 to 430°C.

Claims **4 to 11** (Canceled).

12. (Previously presented) The lithium primary battery according to claim 1, wherein said positive electrode does not contain lithium.

Claims **13 to 15** (Canceled).

16. (Previously presented) The lithium primary battery according to claim 1, wherein said manganese dioxide does not contain lithium.

17. (Currently amended) A lithium primary battery comprising:

a positive electrode ~~comprising~~ consisting essentially of manganese dioxide, carbon, and 0.1 to 3 weight percent of boron;

a negative electrode comprising a lithium alloy containing lithium and 0.05 to 2 weight percent of aluminum; and

a non-aqueous electrolyte.

[RESPONSE CONTINUES ON NEXT PAGE]